AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously amended) A liquid-absorbent sheet for absorbing drips oozing from a food, comprising a laminate of a liquid-pervious layer and an underlying liquid-absorbing layer, the liquid-pervious layer having through-holes that serve as liquid guides capable of passing the drips therethrough, the liquid-absorbing layer being capable of absorbing the drips having passed through the liquid-pervious layer, wherein

the contact angle of a drop of physiological saline to the surface of the liquid-pervious layer is at least 35°, and an electrostatic chargeability of the liquid absorbing layer is lower than that of the liquid-pervious layer, wherein

the liquid-pervious layer is a resin film which is extrusion laminated onto the liquid-absorbing layer and processed to have the through-holes.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously amended) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein the liquid-absorbing layer is also processed to have holes that communicate with the through-holes of the liquid-pervious layer.

5. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein the liquid-absorbing layer is a liquid-retentive fibrous layer that comprises at least either of natural fibers and synthetic fibers.

6. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 5, wherein an antistatic agent is applied to the fibers of the liquid-absorbing layer.

7. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein the electrostatic chargeability of the laminate of the liquid-pervious layer and

the liquid-absorbing layer is lower than that of the liquid-pervious layer alone.

8. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein the liquid-pervious layer comprises a top layer to directly receive a food on one side thereof and at least one back layer laminated to the other side of the top layer, and the electrostatic chargeability of the back layer is lower than that of the top layer.

9. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 8, wherein the electrostatic chargeability of the top layer is higher than those of the back layer and the liquid-absorbing layer.

10. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 9, wherein at least the back layer and the liquid-absorbing layer contain an antistatic agent.

11. (Original) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 8, wherein the electrostatic chargeability of the laminate of the liquid-pervious layer and the liquid-absorbing layer is lower than that of the top layer alone.

12. (Previsouly presented) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 1, wherein a charge level of the liquid-absorbing layer is at most $1/50^{th}$ of that of the liquid-pervious layer.

13. (New) A liquid-absorbent sheet for absorbing drips oozing from a food, comprising a laminate of a liquid-pervious layer and an underlying liquid-absorbing layer of thermoplastic synthetic fibers, the liquid-pervious layer having through-holes that serve as liquid guides capable of passing the drips therethrough, the liquid-absorbing layer being capable of absorbing the drips having passed through the liquid-pervious layer, wherein the contact angle of a drop of physiological saline to the surface of the liquid-pervious layer is at least 35°, and an electrostatic

chargeability of the liquid-absorbing layer is lower than that of the liquid-pervious layer, wherein

the liquid-pervious layer is a resin film which is extrusion laminated onto the lqiuid-absorbing layer and processed to have the through-holes.

14. (New) The liquid-absorbent sheet as set forth in claim 13, wherein the liquid-absorbing layer is a through-air bonded nonwoven fabric.